

Moncreiffe Hill also has numerous colonies of *Lasius flavus* (Fabr.), with some mounds positioned under ash woodland planted in 1955. It is possible that on south facing slopes with high levels of isolation, *L. flavus* can be a persistent component of open woodland. Longer-term observations will be required to support this hypothesis.— JONATHAN HUGHES, Woodland Trust Scotland, 6 (4F3) Buccleuch Terrace, Edinburgh EH8 9ND. (E-mail: jonathanhughes@woodland-trust.org.uk).

The generic names of the British Hydradephaga (Coleoptera) explained

For the origins of *Agabus* and *Acilius* I am wholly indebted to Mr David Atty.

<i>Brychius</i>	“from the depths of the sea” – an unfortunate name for a running-water insect.
<i>Haliplus</i>	a sailor or seaman.
<i>Peltodytes</i>	a shield-bearing diver.
<i>Hygrobia</i>	living in moisture (syn. <i>pelobius</i> = living in mud.).
<i>Noterus</i>	wet, damp.
<i>Laccophilus</i>	lover of water-hollows as ponds, tanks; cf. <i>Laccobius</i> (Hydrophilidae).
<i>Hydrovaus</i>	oval inhabitant of water. (A Greek-Latin hybrid).
<i>Hyphydrus</i>	(living) under water.
<i>Hydroglyptus</i>	best translated “sculptured water-beetle”.
<i>Bidessus</i>	should refer to some paired feature, but what?
<i>Hygrotes</i>	represents Greek <i>hygrotes</i> “wetness, moisture”.
<i>Coelambus</i>	with hollowed edges or rims (epipleurae of elytra).
<i>Hydroporus</i>	passing through or travelling in water.
<i>Stictonectes</i>	spotted swimmer.
<i>Graptodytes</i>	inscribed diver (from its markings).
<i>Porlydrus</i>	same as <i>Hydroporus</i> with the two elements awkwardly transposed.
<i>Deronectes</i>	literally “neck swimmer” (whatever Sharp meant by that).
<i>Potamonectes</i>	river swimmer.
<i>Stictotarsus</i>	with spotted tarsi.
<i>Oreodytes</i>	mountain diver.
<i>Scarodytes</i>	leaping, skipping diver (all who have taken small Dytiscids by hand will be well aware of this tendency).
<i>Laccornis</i>	pond or lake bird.
<i>Copelatus</i>	oar-driven (an apt name for a Dytiscid).
<i>Platambus</i>	with broad rims (i.e., elytral epipleurae).
<i>Agabus</i>	name of a prophet of Judea mentioned in the Bible (Acts 11, 28 and 21, 10).
<i>Ilybius</i>	living in mud (like <i>Pelobius</i> , not an apt name).
<i>Rhantus</i>	sprinkled, bedewed, splashed.
<i>Colymbetes</i>	diver or plunger.
<i>Hydaticus</i>	connected with water.
<i>Graphoderus</i>	“with neck written on”, from the pronotal markings.
<i>Acilius</i>	name of a Roman Tribune; also of an historian.
<i>Dytiscus</i>	little diver.
<i>Gyrinus</i>	from their gyrations on the surface of water.
<i>Orectochilus</i>	with jutting lip, i.e., the labrum.

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